

In re: Roberto DeLima et al.
Application No.: 09/825,078
Filed: April 3, 2001
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Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend page 16, lines 3-19 as indicated below:

The present invention is an enhancement of the first-mentioned related invention disclosed in U.S. Pat. App. Serial No. 09/557,708 [____], entitled "URL-Based Sticky Routing Tokens Using a Server-Side Cookie Jar" (referred to hereinafter as the "Sticky Routing Token patent"). The teachings therein enable a server affinity to be defined for a particular client (without requiring the client's IP address to be unique) and restore Web applications' ability to rely on the presence of cookies (with no assumption on the ability of a particular client to support cookie functionality). Instead, any cookies inserted into an outbound HTTP header are extracted prior to delivery of the response message to the client, and are stored in server-side storage referred to as a "cookie jar". After extracting the cookies, if the outbound response includes a markup language document, then any embedded URLs within that markup language document referring to or relative to the session's server are rewritten in a detectable manner to include what is defined as a "sticky routing token". A sticky routing token is a client-unique URL that indicates, inter alia, where in the network the cookie jar for this particular client session resides. The rewritten URL format is transparent to the client. If one of the rewritten URLs is subsequently referenced (e.g. by the user clicking on a link to that URL, or rendering a page which includes the URL), then the sticky routing token is automatically returned on the request message which is sent to retrieve the content of that URL.